

2005 Grants**Number of Projects in South and Central Asia: 8**

Name of Organization: Indiana University
Location: Bloomington, Indiana
Subject: Promoting Cultural Preservation

Under this grant, Indiana University will conduct an exchange program for community members from areas near sites of archaeological interest in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. Activities include a series of workshops focusing on protection of cultural sites in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan and a U.S. exchange visit to Indiana and New Mexico. In the U.S., participants will meet with cultural preservation specialists, tourism experts, and Native American communities that have managed cultural resources in a way that both promotes economic development and protects their heritage.

Country(ies): Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Indiana
Theme(s):

Name of Organization: George Mason University
Location: Fairfax, Virginia
Subject: Encouraging Tolerance in Tajik Institutions

This grant will support a two-year project coordinated by George Mason University's Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR). The project is designed to enhance the interaction and cooperation between indigenous religious and educational institutions in Tajikistan to encourage a more tolerant society. Project activities will include a series of workshops on religious diversity in Tajikistan by American experts; a study tour for 14 Tajik educators in the greater Washington, D.C., area; the development of a resource center on diversity and tolerance in Dushanbe; and the creation of a curriculum on the role of religion in society for implementation in Tajik higher educational institutions.

Country(ies): Tajikistan
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Virginia
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: Eastern Iowa Community College District
Location: Davenport, Iowa

Subject: Developing Learning Modules for Intercultural Understanding and Communication

Eastern Iowa Community College District, in cooperation with the Stella Maris College in Chennai, will conduct a two-way exchange of three teams of six American and Indian educators and community leaders. The teams will develop six learning modules and one full course focused on increasing intercultural understanding and intercultural communication skills. Each learning module will include a case study involving the role of religious, community, educational, and political leaders in the U.S. and Indian societies. The case studies will be translated and presented via the Internet to U.S. and Indian college students.

Country(ies): India
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Iowa
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: The American Institute of Bangladesh Studies

Location: University Park, Pennsylvania

Subject: Promoting the Professional Development of Bangladeshi Higher Education Administrators

This grant will support a two-year exchange to promote the professional development of key Bangladeshi educational administrators in the private, public, and religious sectors of the higher education system. Activities will include a U.S. program for ten Bangladeshi university administrators, two workshops for 20 Bangladeshi and six U.S. university administrators in Dhaka, and the preparation of case studies produced by project participants into a published monograph.

Country(ies): Bangladesh
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Pennsylvania
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: Washington University in St. Louis

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

Subject: Training in Community Mediation and Conflict Resolution

The Washington University School of Law (WULAW) will conduct a three-year exchange program providing training in community mediation and conflict resolution to 15 Nepalese from the Kathmandu School of Law, the Forum for Women and

Development, and the Gender Equity Program. Each year, five Nepalese participants will join international counterparts for two weeks of training and job shadowing at WULAW and one week at the Association for Conflict Resolution annual conference. A web-based training component, developed by WULAW in partnership with its partners in Nepal, will allow ongoing training and communication and will establish a network whereby other organizations involved in community conflict resolution can exchange ideas.

Country(ies): Nepal
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Missouri
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: Eastern Washington University

Location: Cheney, Washington

Subject: Improving the Education and Economic Conditions of Women and Girls in Pakistan

This grant will support a two-year exchange project to improve the education and economic conditions of women and young girls in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan. Activities will include a four-week training course in the U.S. for 12-14 Pashto-speaking Pakistani teachers; a program in FATA for the teachers to pilot the new techniques and curricula which they have learned in the U.S.; three four week workshops to introduce the new curricula to 200 teachers; and modification of the curricula for use in local community education initiatives.

Country(ies): Pakistan
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Washington
Theme(s): Women's Empowerment

Name of Organization: World Learning

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Increasing Parental Involvement in Bangladeshi Schools

World Learning-Delphi (WL) will conduct a seven-month exchange project to increase parental involvement in primary schools in Bangladesh, aiming to encourage educational excellence and improve student performance. The project will build linkages between parents and community leaders in Bangladesh and school advocacy groups in the United States; the latter will serve as post-grant resources for the former. Twelve Bangladeshi participants—teachers, education officials, parents, and NGO representatives—will travel to the U.S. for 21 days of training sessions and observational site visits addressing U.S.

education, the role of school boards and PTAs, and volunteerism. They will develop work plans to implement upon their return to Bangladesh. Four U.S. participants will also visit Bangladesh to monitor progress toward fulfilling the work plans and to provide additional training and consultation.

Country(ies): Bangladesh
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Washington, DC
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: National Council of State Legislators

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Developing Institutional Linkages between U.S. State Legislators and their Indian Counterparts

The National Council of State Legislators (NCSL) will conduct a three-phase exchange program involving 20 legislators and key staff of state governments of India and the U.S. The purpose of the program is to foster closer relationships and develop institutional linkages between U.S. state legislators and staff and their state counterparts in India. Good governance and ethical standards will be promoted along with enhancing fiscal relationships between local, state and federal government. The program will aim to improve constituent relations by encouraging greater citizen participation and will strengthen democratic and federalism concepts in the context of public policy matters such as education and outsourcing.

Country(ies): India
Region: South and Central Asia
U.S. State: Washington, DC
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance